



WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 22, 2013

OPP Weekly Activity Report

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PESTICIDE RE-EVALUATION DIVISION

Oodles of Registration Review First Team Meetings Held in the Last Week.

On February 19, 2013, the metam sodium/potassium, dazomet, and MITC team met for the first time. These pesticides are employed as conventional soil fumigants, and they also have antimicrobial uses (Jose Gayoso, 703-347-8652; Dana Friedman, 703-347-8827). On the same date, the first team meeting for 1,3-dichloropropene (1,3-D) took place. 1,3-D is used mainly as a preplant soil fumigant and is often formulated with another soil fumigant, chloropicrin (Andrea Mojica, 703-308-0122). On February 20, the first team meeting for ethylene oxide (ETO) was held. ETO is an antimicrobial and conventional chemical used to sterilize medical or laboratory equipment, pharmaceuticals, and aseptic packaging, or reduce microbial load on musical instruments, cosmetics, whole and ground spices or other seasoning materials and artifacts, archival material or library objects. (Susan Bartow, 703-603-0065). The propylene oxide (PPO) registration review team held its first meeting on February 21. PPO is an insecticidal fumigant used on agricultural commodities such as nuts and spices, and also on non-food sites like cosmetics and pharmaceutical materials (Andrea Mojica, 703-308-0122). The dockets for all these pesticides are scheduled to open in September 2013.

Abamectin Focus Meetings Held.

On February 14, 2013, EPA's abamectin registration review team spoke with representatives of Nufarm, Cheminova, Tide, Ensysyex III, Celsius Property, Tree Care Science, and Rotam. A second meeting was held with Syngenta on February 20, 2013. Topics discussed at both meetings include anticipated data requirements for registration review, use and usage clarifications, the lack of non-agricultural production data for abamectin, the need for pollinator data from the literature, and outstanding label issues, including the potential for a master label. Abamectin is an insecticide/miticide/nematicide registered for use to control pests on various agricultural and non-agricultural use sites. Agricultural use sites include cotton, almond, oranges, pears, grapefruit, grapes, corn, beans, pumpkins, alfalfa, pecan, and broccoli. Non-agricultural use sites include poultry houses, agricultural premises, ornamental lawns, turf, domestic dwellings, recreational areas, eating establishments, cattle ear tags, and commercial transportation facilities. The public docket with the abamectin Preliminary Work Plan for registration review is expected to open in June 2012. (Khue Nguyen, 703-347-0248)

OPP and Federal Partners Discuss Registrant's Label Proposals for Fenbutatin-oxide

Biological Opinion.

On Monday, February 4, 2013, OPP (PRD and EFED) held a conference call with members of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to follow up on the use pattern

changes that the registrant UPI proposed during the applicant meeting on January 16, 2013. NMFS has indicated that they would incorporate the proposed use pattern changes into their upcoming draft Biological Opinion on fenbutatin oxide which is scheduled to be completed in April 2013. The final Biological Opinion is due by June 30, 2013. Fenbutatin-oxide is an acaricide/insecticide registered to control various insects (e.g., thrips, whiteflies, mealy bugs, mites, and aphids) that feed on agricultural crops and ornamental plants. (Carissa Cyran, 703-347-8781)

OPP Meets with Methyl Bromide Industry Panel (MBIP). On February 19, 2013, OPP met with representatives of the MBIP and methyl bromide technical registrants to discuss risk mitigation for post-harvest uses of methyl bromide. The meeting focused on revising buffer zone language on the TRED label table for post-harvest uses. MBIP provided an update and timeline for submitting supporting information for their proposed revisions. OPP emphasized the need to move forward with implementation of buffer zones to provide the intended protections while continuing discussions for possible refinement to buffer zones modeling. Additional meetings will be scheduled to continue discussing mitigation language for product labels and buffer zone modeling. (Susan Bartow, 703-603-0065 and Carolyn Schroeder, 703-308-2962)

ANTIMICROBIALS DIVISION

AD Participates in NIOSH Cleaning and Disinfection Work Group Teleconference.

On February 20, 2013, representatives from the Antimicrobials Division (AD) participated in a teleconference with the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Cleaning and Disinfection Work Group. The goal of the work group is maximize the health and safety of workers, patients and others as related to the cleaning and disinfection of surfaces in health care settings. This group consists of occupational health and safety researchers from NIOSH as well as infection control specialists from the Centers for Disease Control, state health departments, major medical centers and academia. The group discussed a problem scoping document that summarizes the health and safety benefits and concerns related to cleaning and disinfection of environmental and non-critical surfaces in health care. Label concerns relating to the cleaning and disinfection practices used in hospitals were also discussed. (Timothy C. Dole, 703-305-6450 and Jonathan Chen, 703-305-1287)

BIOLOGICAL & ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION

M. terrae OECD Collaborative Kickoff Meetings. Over the past week, teleconferences were held with the seven laboratories that expressed an interest in participating in a collaborative study to evaluate the performance of the

OECD method for *Mycobacterium terrae*. This is the second in a series of collaborative studies aimed at evaluating the repeatability and reproducibility of the OECD harmonized efficacy test method against a variety of microorganisms. Due to the prolonged incubation period for *M. terrae*, MLB asked the interested labs to begin preparing their frozen stock cultures of *M.t.* and purchase the necessary materials. The study protocol will be distributed to the labs in early March. (Rebecca Pines, 410-305-2635; Stephen Tomasino, 410-305-2976)

Experts on Biofilm Provide Overview to BEAD and AD Staff. Dr. Phil Stewart, Director of Montana State University's (MSU) Center for Biofilm Engineering, and Dr. Darla Goeres, Assistant Research Professor at MSU, provided an overview of bacterial biofilm. Biofilm forms when bacteria adhere to surfaces in moist environments by excreting slime (extracellular polymeric substances or EPS). A biofilm community can be formed by a single bacterial species, or may consist of many species of bacteria, as well as fungi, algae, yeasts, and protozoa. Biofilm are considered more tolerant to disinfectants than typical surface contaminants. BEAD coordinated the video conference with MSU which focused on biofilm characteristics, control strategies of biofilm with antimicrobial chemicals, and standard test methodologies. Over the past few years, the Microbiology Laboratory Branch has worked with MSU, under contract with EPA, on the development of standardized methodology for product efficacy testing. AD is considering the requirements for new label claims for control of biofilm, the appropriate test methods and associated performance standards. Scientists at MSU have agreed to volunteer their time to assist the Agency with technical questions as they arise. (Stephen Tomasino, 410-305-2976)

BEAD Meets with Crop Life America's Registration Committee On Feb. 19 BEAD met with CLA's Registration Committee to discuss several topics of interest to the committee. The discussion focused on a series of questions CLA had sent to BEAD earlier. The questions were related mainly to the sources of pesticide use and usage data BEAD provides to HED and EFED for risk assessments, public interest findings for conditional registrations, and resistance management. (Mark Hartman, 308-8200 and Skee Jones, 305-7416)

BEAD Hosts Entomological Society and Weed Science Society Science Liaisons Dr. Mark Whalon (Michigan State University) of the Entomological Society of America and Dr. Jill Schroeder (New Mexico State University) of the Weed Science Society of America visited OPP the week of February 19 and participated in a number of OPP activities. Dr. Whalon and Dr. Schroeder met with Bill Chism to discuss the ongoing activities of the OPP Resistance Management workgroup and how their respective societies' input on RM definitions and best management practices could enhance this workgroup's efforts. Both liaisons also met with BEAD and RD scientists to discuss society input on IPM definitions, for the purposes of refining a number of OPP's benefit-based assessments related to IPM

enhancement. Both liaisons also had a number of meetings with BEAD and other divisions to discuss topics such as pollinator protection, endangered species, MRL harmonization, and more. (Clayton Myers, 347-8874)

Plaque Assay versus TCID₅₀ for Determination of Viral Concentration. Using the Vero cell line to propagate adenovirus, a titer of about 6.4 logs has been attained – just below the 6.5 log absolute minimum to perform the OECD virucidal test. It seems that moving to another cell line (A549) that allows a higher titer will be necessary. However, the A549 cell line is not conducive to plaque assay, and TCID₅₀ would have to be used to determine the viral titer. MLB is comparing the plaque assay to TCID₅₀ to see how close the two methods agreed when determining viral titer. The same virus stock was tested using both methods. The two methods were within 0.1 logs of each other. Additionally, TCID₅₀ is much easier, quicker, and requires less media than plaque assay. MLB may reconsider the further use of plaque assay and move to TCID₅₀. (Jason Duncan, 410-305-2619)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

CSIB Leads Office 365 Migration in OPP: All Agency employees migrated to new email provided through Office 365 over the President's Day weekend. CSIB worked with 32 Power Users across the Program to devise a support program for all OPP employees. There were at least two power users who were converted to O365 two weeks before the mass migration. CSIB worked with those power users and the members of the EZ Tech Workgroup in each division to provide support to all users with Outlook and Lync configuration. As a result of this training and support to all OPP Divisions and contractors, the migration progressed smoothly for most employees. CSIB continues to work with all Divisions to provide on-going support as well as training resources to employees for any questions related to the new tools. Should you have any questions, please contact Troy Stewart or David Kovack. (Hamaad Syed, 305-0502)

Pollinator Web Pages Updated - The OPP Web Team worked with FEAD to update information on the pollinator web pages in preparation for the 2013 Pollinator Summit meeting on March 5, 2013. For more information, please visit the Pollinator Protection web page at <http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/ecosystem/pollinator/index.html> . (Les Hoot, 703-305-0876, Christine Tran, 703-305-1577)

Pyrethroids and Pyrethrins Web pages Updated – The ITRMD Web Team worked with PRD to update the Pyrethroids and Pyrethrins web pages on the Pesticides website. The first page, Pyrethroids and Pyrethrins, contains information from various EPA topic pages, fact sheets, and other sources that relate to the insecticides pyrethroids and pyrethrins. The second page explains the EPA implemented 2009 labeling initiative, with minor revisions in 2013, requiring revised

Environmental Hazard Statements and general Directions for Use for pyrethroid and pyrethrins pesticide products used in non-agricultural outdoor settings. For more information, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reevaluation/pyrethroids-pyrethrins.html> and <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reevaluation/environmental-hazard-statment.html> (Miriam Organic, 703-605-0583)

Termite Fact Sheet Web Page Updated - The OPP Web Team worked with FEAD to add additional information under the chemical treatments section of the termite fact sheet web page. Several chemicals were added under both the conventional barrier treatments and bait treatments, and new content was included for wood treatment. For more information, please refer to the termite fact sheet web page at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/controlling/termite.html> (Les Hoot, 703-305-0876)

Environmental Chemistry Methods (ECM) Index Updated - The ITRMD Web Team worked with EFED to update the ECM Index tables with the Environmental Chemistry Methods for soil and water for the chemicals Aminocyclopyrachlor methyl & degradates and Topramezone & degradate M670H05. For more information, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/methods/ecm-a.html> and <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/methods/ecm-t.html> . (Miriam Organic, 703-605-0583, Carol Cotton, 703-305-0582)

OPP FOIA Request Status Report – Feb 11-15, 2013							
Requests Received		Requests Closed			Requests Open		
FY13	This Week	FY13	FYTD	This Week	FY13	Prior Years	Total
171	12	94	163	6	77	147	224

(Ana Espinoza, 703-347-0102)

BIOPESTICIDES & POLLUTION PREVENTION DIVISION

BPPD Staff Attend Interagency Meeting on GE Mosquito Field Trial. On February 19th, an interagency meeting was held in Rockville, MD to discuss a new animal drug application submitted to FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine by Oxitec, Ltd. of Oxford, UK. FDA is treating an engineered *Aedes aegypti* line as a new animal drug under the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act. They have asked EPA, CDC and USDA-APHIS to provide technical support regarding risk assessment of the proposed field trial, which is slated for the Florida Keys. Under NEPA

oversight, FDA is the lead agency for the field trial and is working with Oxitec to plan the design of the field tests. Previous work by this company outside the U.S. involving release of male sterile mosquitoes has shown promise in reducing populations of *Aedes* spp. *A. aegypti*, the primary vector for dengue fever in the Southeastern U.S. In recent years, more than 90 cases of dengue fever have occurred in the FL Keys. (John Kough, 308-8267; Chris Wozniak, 308-4043)

EPA and CDC Co-Host Upcoming Conference on IPM and Tick-Borne Disease. On February 20th, BPPD and FEAD distributed an OPP Update about the upcoming Conference on IPM and Tick-Borne Disease. Co-hosted by EPA and CDC, the conference will be held March 5th and 6th at OPP in Arlington, VA. The main objective of the conference is to identify IPM research initiatives for the prevention of tick-borne diseases. Invited guests include Dr. Willy Burgdorfer, who is world renowned for discovery of *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the pathogen that causes Lyme disease. This conference builds upon the 2011 Promoting Community IPM for Preventing Tick-Borne Diseases conference. Conference seating is on a first-come basis. Additional information about the conference can be found at http://www.epa.gov/pestwise/events/2013_tick_meeting.html. (Candace Brassard, 305-6598; Raderrio Wilkins, 308-1259)

Grantees Selected for 2013 Biopesticides Demonstration Grant Program. On February 19th, final selections were made for grantees of the Biopesticide Demonstration Grant Program. BPPD has long partnered with USDA's Interregional Research Project #4 (IR-4) on this program, which works to reduce barriers to increased adoption of biopesticides by funding field demonstrations of effective biopesticides in IPM systems. Over the past few weeks, BPPD's Raderrio Wilkins, Clara Fuentes, Joel Gagliardi, Annabel Waggoner, Mike Rexrode, Russell Jones, Chris Wozniak and AD's Ibrahim Laniyan have collaborated with IR-4 to review and evaluate the 2013 grant applications. A public announcement of the grantees is forthcoming from IR-4. (Raderrio Wilkins, 308-125)

BPPD Registration Actions Completed Under PRIA – December 2012 and January 2013

BPPD Registration Actions Completed Under the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA)					
Active Ingredient	Company	EPA Registration #	PRIA Code + Action	PRIA Due Date	Registration Date
The Biochemical Branch granted:					
Azadirachtin	Ecocast Technologies, LLC	89152-2	B670	12/05/12	12/05/12
Cheryl Green, 308-0352					
Cis-9-Tricosene	Wellmark International	2724-817	B672	12/06/12	12/06/12
Cheryl Green, 308-0352					
Gibberellic acid	Valent Biosciences Corporation	73049-492	B660	12/12/12	12/12/12
Menyon Adams, 347-8496					

BPPD Registration Actions Completed Under the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA)					
Active Ingredient	Company	EPA Registration #	PRIA Code + Action	PRIA Due Date	Registration Date
(Z,Z)-11,13-Hexadecadienal	Suterra, LLC	56336-64	B721	1/24/13	12/19/12
Colin Walsh, 308-0298					
1-Methylcyclopropene	Agro-Fresh, Inc.	71297-12, 71297-13, 71297-14, and 71297-15	B670	3/20/13	1/30/13
Gina Burnett, 605-0513					
The Microbial Branch granted:					
Cydia pomonella granulovirus isolate V22	Andermatt Biocontrol AG	69553-1	B600	1/8/13	1/8/13
Ann Sibold, 305-6502					
Metarhizium anisopliae strain F52 spores	Novozymes Biologicals, Inc.	70127-10	B680	1/19/13	1/16/13
Shanaz Bacchus, 308-8097					
MIR162 (Cip3Aa20) and 1507(Cry1F) Bt proteins in corn	Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.	29964-20	B880	1/24/13	1/25/13
Ann Sibold, 305-6502					
MIR162 (VipAa20), MON810 (Cry1Ab), and 1507 (Cry1F) Bt proteins in corn	Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.	29964-19	B880	1/24/13	1/25/13
Ann Sibold, 305-6502					
Bt FLCry1Ab protein (Event COT67B) cotton	Bayer Cropscience LP	264-EUP-147	B772	1/31/13	1/31/13
Denise Greenway, 308-8263					
<p>PRIA Codes: B600 – New active ingredient, non-food use; B650 - New use; non-food; B660 - New product; identical or substantially similar in composition and use to a registered product; no data review or only product chemistry data; cite-all data citation, or selective data citation where applicant owns all required data, or applicant submits specific authorization letter from data owner. Category also includes 100% re-package of registered end-use or manufacturing-use product that requires no data submission or data matrix; B670 - New product; registered source of active ingredient; all Tier I data for product chemistry, toxicology, non-target organisms, and product performance must be addressed with product specific data or with request for data waivers supported by scientific rationales; B672 - New product; non-food use or food use having established tolerance or tolerance exemption; unregistered source of active ingredient; no data compensation issues; all Tier I data requirements for product chemistry, toxicology, non-target organisms, and product performance must be addressed with product-specific data or with request for data waivers supported by scientific rationales; B680 - Label amendment requiring data submission; B721 - New product; unregistered source of active ingredient; B772 - Application to amend or extend an Experimental Use Permit; no petition since the established tolerance/tolerance exemption for the active ingredient is unaffected; B880 - Registration application; registered (3) PIP; new product or new terms of registration; additional data submitted; no petition since a permanent tolerance/tolerance exemption is already established for the active ingredient(s).;</p>					

ENVIRONMENTAL FATE & EFFECTS DIVISION

ORD Presents Seminar on Research Related to EDSP Assays. This week Dr. Gerald Ankley and Dr. L. Earl Gray from EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) briefed OCSPP on two papers, currently in press, which are relevant to the upcoming review of Tier 1 Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) assay

and battery performance. The first paper evaluated cross-species conservation of endocrine pathways related to reproduction in mammals and fish. The second described an azole fungicide as a potential model steroidogenesis inhibitor. The studies were based on validation data from Tier 1 of the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP). The seminar was hosted remotely and was attended by scientists from OPP, OSCP, and ORD. (Don Bergfelt, 202-564-8472; Catherine Aubee, 703-347-8029).

Meeting to Discuss Sacramento River Drinking Water and Pesticide Use on Rice.

On February 15, members of the Pesticides in Flooded Agriculture Model (PFAM) Implementation Team met with representatives from USEPA Region 9 and Sacramento River Drinking Water Agencies to discuss drinking water management in California in relation to pesticide use on rice. The discussion included topics such as location of drinking water intakes, treatment at those facilities, and monitoring data. Lessons learned from a case study on thiobencarb were also discussed. The information learned will be used in the development of the conceptual model and scenarios used with PFAM to estimate pesticide concentrations in surface water from use on rice. (Katrina White 703-308-4536).

HEALTH EFFECTS DIVISION

HED Participates in a Focus Meeting for Abamectin Registration Review: HED's RAB3 members (Christine Olinger, Whang Phang, Nancy Dodd, and Nancy Tsaur) along with members of PRD, RD, BEAD, and EFED met with representatives of Syngenta on February 20, 2013 to discuss issues related to the registration review of abamectin. Abamectin is a natural fermentation product of the soil bacterium *Streptomyces avermitilis*. Abamectin is called "locally systemic", which means that it will penetrate into the leaf from the surface but not move across the leaf. Syngenta presented a label review with particular attention to maximum pounds active ingredient per year, which includes applications from all registered labels (i.e., ant bait plus seed treatment plus field applications). A master label will be prepared by the registrants; a template for agricultural uses will be provided by RD. An immunotoxicity study is required by HED under current guidelines; the registrant will submit a request for a data waiver in February or March 2013. HED indicated that the 30-day rat inhalation study has been reviewed. (Nancy Dodd, 703-305-5681)

Teleconference on OECD Eye Irritation Test Guidelines: John Redden, Debbie McCall, PV Shah, Tim McMahon and Christine Olinger, along with representatives from FDA, held a conference call with representatives from the Netherlands and the OECD and their contractors to discuss proposed changes to the *in vitro* test for eye irritation using the Isolated Chicken Eye (ICE). The US has previously expressed concern over the proposal, so the OECD contractor provided additional information and revised language shortly before the conference call.

The US representatives will meet on Monday, February 25 to discuss the revisions.
(C. Olinger 305-5406)

EPA Biomonitoring Workgroup Meeting: David Miller and Aaron Niman of CEB attended the EPA's Biomonitoring Workgroup (BWG) semi-annual conference call. The BWG includes representatives from EPA's regional and program offices. During the meeting, Mary Mortenson of CDC provided an update on the National Health and Nutrition Examination (NHANES) biomonitoring program. CDC plans on releasing NHANES biomonitoring data on thiocarbamates and some organophosphate (OP) analytes in March. This March release, however, will not include the main OP biomarkers that have been an interest to OPP which include the chlorpyrifos-specific metabolite TCPY and the non-specific dialkyl phosphate metabolites. CDC also indicated that they have developed a method that they plan to use to measure DEET in NHANES 2007-08 and have done some exploratory work measuring nano silver. BWG members asked Mary about new analytes, and Mary indicated that CDC's focus right now due to budgetary and other reasons was clearing the backlog with pesticides, and they would not thus be considering adding new analytes. (Aaron Niman, 347-8627)

HED Staff Meet with NCEA on Commodity Consumption Estimates for Pregnant and Non-Pregnant Women: Several HED Staff met with Jackie Moya and Linda Phillips of NCEA to discuss an analysis CEB staff performed on the consumption patterns of pregnant women and non-pregnant women of childbearing age. Specifically, NCEA had requested that CEB expand our recent analysis of the new NHANES dietary survey data so they could update the 2011 Exposure Factors Handbook (EFH) to include dietary consumption data for pregnant women in addition to women of childbearing age. NCEA intends to update the EFH to include dietary patterns of pregnant women and to release an Issue Paper on exposure factors for pregnant women later this year. At NCEA's request, CEB's new analysis compared dietary consumption patterns for pregnant vs. non-pregnant females. We found that pregnant females in general consumed greater amounts of commodities including (in particular) citrus, peaches, cucurbits, tropical fruits, and pears. We emphasized to NCEA that greater consumption of certain commodities by pregnant females did not necessarily translate directly to greater exposure or risk to pregnant females compared to non-pregnant females of childbearing age. (Bayazid Sarkar, 703-347-0131)